

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet replaces the original sheet.

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1-7 are presently pending. Claim 1 has been amended. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks. Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicants' representative during the interview of June 22, 2009. During the interview, the Examiner's interpretation of the art of record was discussed in comparison to claim 1. No agreement was reached on the allowability of the claims.

Objections to the Drawings and Specification

Page 2 of the Office Action sets forth "[t]he drawings are objected to...because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 11 and V2." Additionally, page 2 of the Office Action sets forth "[t]he disclosure is objected to because...[t]he specification contains reference numbers not found in the drawings, [as] detailed above." Applicants note that the inclusion in the specification of reference numeral "11" is in error, and herein amend the specification to replace reference numeral "11" with reference numeral "1". Applicants further herein amend FIG. 1 to include the reference sign "V2". Accordingly, withdrawal of these objections is respectfully requested.

Objection to the Claims

Page 3 of the Office Action sets forth "Claim 1 is objected to because...claim limitation lines should end with a semi-colon instead of a comma." Applicants herein amend claim 1 as requested by the Examiner. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Page 3 of the Office Action sets forth "Claims 1-3 and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,288,212 to Lee in view of U.S. Patent 5,240,391 to Ramshankar." Page 5 of the Office Action sets forth "Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over...Lee in view of...Ramshankar and U.S. Patent 5,039,287 to Da Costa." Applicants respectfully submit that these rejections are overcome by the amendments to the claims for the reasons set forth below.

Applicants' invention, as recited by claim 1, includes features which are neither disclosed nor suggested by the art of record, namely:

...a suction pipe including a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and an opening and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter and connected to an external refrigerating system,...the large diameter part opening to an inside of the hermetic container.... (emphasis added)

This means that a suction pipe includes a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and an opening and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter. The large diameter part opens to an inside of the hermetic container. The small diameter part is connected to an external refrigerating system. This feature is described in the originally filed application, for example, at page 4, lines 4-11, and FIG. 2. No new matter is added.

Lee is directed to the cylinder head of a hermetic reciprocating compressor. As shown in FIG. 7, for example, Lee discloses a suction pipe 41 opening into a hermetic container 1. Suction pipe 41 faces inlet part 53 of a suction cover 50, which passes coolant into cylinder 6. See Lee at column 7, lines 31-56, and FIG. 7.

Ramshankar is directed to a compressor suction inlet duct. As shown in FIG. 1, for example, Ramshankar discloses a suction inlet 34 having a flared portion and opening into a compressor 10.

The Office Action acknowledges that "Lee does not teach an inlet suction pipe having a large diameter part and a small diameter part." Applicants agree. Applicants respectfully submit, however, that Ramshankar fails to make up for the deficiencies of Lee with respect to claim 1.

As discussed during the interview, Ramshankar discloses that the portion of suction pipe 34 excluding the flared portion has a substantially constant diameter. The flared portion of suction pipe 34, however, has an increasing diameter. Ramshankar fails to disclose, teach, or suggest suction pipe 34 having two parts each having respective substantially constant diameters. This is different from the claimed invention because Applicants' claimed invention requires a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter. Accordingly, Applicants

respectfully submit that Ramshankar fails to disclose, teach, or suggest "a suction pipe including a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and an opening and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter and connected to an external refrigerating system, the large diameter part opening to an inside of the hermetic container," as recited in claim 1.

It is because Applicants' claimed invention includes a suction pipe including a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and an opening and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter and connected to an external refrigerating system, the large diameter part opening to an inside of the hermetic container, that the following advantages are achieved. "With this constitution, low temperature cooling medium can be introduced to the compressing mechanism, so that a hermetic compressor having a high refrigerating efficiency is obtained." See the original application at page 2, lines 25-27.

Accordingly, for the reasons set forth above, claim 1 is allowable over the art of record. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 include all of the features of claim 1, from which they depend. Thus, claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are also allowable over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claims 2, 3, and 5-7 is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 includes all of the features of claim 1, from which it depends. Applicants respectfully submit that the addition of Da Costa fails to make up for the deficiencies of Lee and Ramshankar with respect to claim 1.

Da Costa is directed to a direct suction system for a hermetic compressor. As shown in FIG. 1, for example, Da Costa discloses a suction tube 10. Suction tube 10 includes an enlarged coupling 11 for housing a screen in suction tube 10. Suction tube 10 opens into a hermetic housing shell 1 through opening 10a. See Da Costa at column 3, lines 17-37, and FIG. 1.

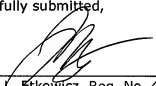
Da Costa discloses that a narrow portion of suction tube 10, and not the enlarged coupling 11, opens into the hermetic housing shell 1 through opening 10a. Da Costa fails to disclose, teach, or suggest enlarged coupling 11 opening into hermetic housing shell 1. This is

different from the claimed invention because Applicants' claimed invention requires a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and an opening and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter and the large diameter part opening to an inside of the hermetic container. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that Da Costa fails to disclose, teach, or suggest "a suction pipe including a large diameter part having a first substantially constant diameter and an opening and a small diameter part having a second substantially constant diameter and connected to an external refrigerating system,...the large diameter part opening to an inside of the hermetic container," as recited in claim 1 and incorporated into claim 4.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, claim 4 is allowable over the art of record. Withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 4 is respectfully requested.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth above, the above-identified application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Jacques L. Etkowicz, Reg. No. 41,738
Attorney for Applicants

JLE/dmw

Attachment: Figure 1 (one sheet)

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P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

NM458722